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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
for the Secretary

March 18, 1994

3/25/94
copies to
D. Roe
A. Peterson
G. Smith
A. Kemmerer
S. Pennoyer

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

FROM: Douglas K. Hall *Douglas K. Hall*
Assistant Secretary for
Oceans and Atmosphere

SUBJECT: Declaration of Fishery Disaster in New England

- I. ISSUE FOR DECISION: Request that the President transfer \$25 million to the Department of Commerce from funds available under the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1994.
- II. BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS: Chapter 8 of Public Law 103-211 appropriates \$550 million for emergency expenses resulting from the recent California earthquake, the Midwest floods, and other disasters. Massachusetts Governor William F. Weld has requested Federal assistance in responding to severe problems facing the New England fishing industry as a result of the collapse of important groundfish resources. The condition of the groundfish resources and the industry that depends upon them are detailed more fully in the attachment to this memorandum.
- III. RECOMMENDATION: That you concur with my conclusion that a fishery disaster exists in New England and forward a request to the President seeking funds for the response of the Department of Commerce to this unprecedented situation.
- IV. DECISION:

[Signature] Approve ☐ Approve as amended ☐ Reject ☐ No action ☐
Attachment

bcc: ES-PCO-F-AS-US

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